

CFAC Site  
3/2017 Site Update DRAFT

Tentative release date – March 2017 after RI Phase I data are available in SEMS and published on the CFAC webpage (without summary report).

Hello,

You are receiving this message as an update about the Anaconda Aluminum Co Columbia Falls Reduction Plant site, also known as the Columbia Falls Aluminum Company (CFAC) site, in Columbia Falls, Montana.

Please share this information with other interested people. If you would like to receive these emails directly, please send an email to [moler.robert@epa.gov](mailto:moler.robert@epa.gov). If you do not want to receive these updates, please respond to this email with "REMOVE" in the subject line of the email.

Site Background: The CFAC site is located two miles northeast of Columbia Falls in Flathead County, Montana. It covers approximately 960 acres north of the Flathead River. The CFAC Plant operated between 1955 and 2009 and created significant quantities of spent potliner material, a federally listed hazardous waste, as a byproduct of the aluminum smelting process. EPA's initial site evaluation indicates that ground water and surface water at the site contain various contaminants of concern including cyanide, fluoride, and various metals.

CFAC became a Superfund site in 2016 when EPA added it to the National Priorities List (NPL). Superfund is the federal program that investigates and cleans up the country's most complex, uncontrolled or abandoned hazardous waste sites to protect public health and the environment.

Currently, a comprehensive investigation of the Site is underway. Soil, river sediment, and ground and surface water samples are being collected to determine the nature and extent of contamination and potential risks to human health and the environment. That information will provide the framework for any necessary cleanup. EPA works closely with the Montana Department of Environmental Quality to oversee the investigation and cleanup of the Site.

Sample Results: Initial data from the investigation are available on the EPA webpage. A summary report for this data will be available soon. After the data and the report are available, EPA staff will set up a time to meet with the community and discuss the findings.

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Community Involvement Plan (CIP): An draft CIP for the CFAC Site is available for review and feedback. A CIP outlines the outreach activities EPA will use to address community concerns. The CIP for the CFAC Site was developed with input from the community that was collected during community interviews and other outreach activities.

EPA will send the draft CIP in a separate email. If you do not receive that email, your email account may not accept large files. The CIP is 6.5 MB. If you do not receive the draft CIP by email and you would like a copy, copies can also be found at the ImaginELF Library in Columbia Falls, 130 6<sup>th</sup> ST. West or by contacting EPA.

This CIP is meant to be revised and updated. If you have time and interest, please take time to read the CIP and share your feedback (by date)

Commented [MR2]: 30 days after release

- Email: [moler.robert@epa.gov](mailto:moler.robert@epa.gov)
- U.S. Mail: U.S. EPA, Region 8 c/o Robert Moler; 10 West 15<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 3200; Helena MT 59626
- Phone: 406.457.5032

Upcoming Public Availability: In the spring, EPA will coordinate with the City of Columbia Falls and the community to set up dates and venues so that EPA staff can talk with the community about the sample results, summary report, draft CIP, and other Site updates. You will receive notification when the dates and venues are set.

Project Leaders and Contacts: For more information, please contact:

- Mike Cirian is the EPA Remedial Project Manager: 406.293.6194; [Cirian.Mike@epa.gov](mailto:Cirian.Mike@epa.gov).
- Lisa Dewitt is the Superfund Project Manager with the Montana Department of Environmental Quality: 406.444.6420; [Lidewitt@mt.gov](mailto:Lidewitt@mt.gov).
- Robert Moler is the EPA Community Involvement Coordinator: 406.457.5032; [moler.robert@epa.gov](mailto:moler.robert@epa.gov).

[www.epa.gov/superfund/columbia-falls](http://www.epa.gov/superfund/columbia-falls)

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